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Edmonton metro

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KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

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You can't buy menthols in Alberta anymore, and the government says it'll stop kids from smoking.

Smokers? They say otherwise.

metroNEWS

City firm on Greys deadline

SCANDAL

Company with ties to ex-mayor asking to pay rent with profit

  
Ryan Tumilty  
Metro | Edmonton

Mayor Don Iveson said the city won't budge on a looming deadline that it's set for Greys Paper Recycling, despite the company asking for more time to pay its rent with profits rather than investor income.

As Metro first reported, the company faces a Monday deadline to make a \$60,000 rent payment for its facility at the city's waste management centre. The city has insisted, for unexplained reasons, that the payment come from sales revenue, not from new investor capital.

The company said it should have sales revenue in a few months and has asked the city for a three-month extension. In a statement, Greys said it would like a face-to-face meeting with city council.

That has been turned down. "The overriding thing is the city has to be careful not to give preferential treatment to tenants beyond what's reasonable, and the city has been extremely reasonable to date," Iveson said of the company's request.

In 2009, the city invested \$9.4 million in Greys. It recently told the company if it misses the coming deadline, the city will seize the building and assets.

Iveson said the city always had high hopes from the company.

"We wanted nothing but the best for the company, because it's an interesting and transformative, Edmonton-based technology," he said.

Former mayor Stephen Mandel is also connected to the firm, serving as chairman of a U.S. spinoff that is attempting to set up plants in American cities.

  
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## KANANASKIS COUNTRY

# NDP takes mulligan on golf course deal



**Ryan Tumilty**  
Metro | Edmonton

Alberta will remain in the golf course business despite the new NDP government's reluctance to step onto the green.

Environment Minister Shannon Phillips announced Wednesday the government would continue to fund the rebuild of the Kananaskis Country Golf Course and keep an agreement in place with a private operator until 2026.

The course was heavily damaged during the 2013 floods in southern Alberta.

As opposition, the NDP heavily criticized both the rebuild and the operating contract, which went to Kan-Alta golf management — a company with connections to the Progressive Conservative Party.

"There is no group of people in this province that would like to be out of this business more than our government," said Phillips at a news conference.

Phillips said an independent report by audit firm Deloitte found rebuilding the golf course will cost the province either \$3.8 million or \$8.8 million, depending on whether the federal government covers some of the costs as flood mitigation.

She said cutting ties with the course operator could have cost the province between \$16.9 million and potentially more than \$30 million.

"Sometimes it's necessary, as our grandmothers used to say, to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear," she said.

PC MLA Richard Starke said he's pleased to see the audit backed up his government's moves.

"Rebuilding the golf course was the right decision, and I am pleased to see that was the conclusion of the Deloitte report," he said.

He noted the course is an important tourism destination and generates \$14 million in economic activity while employing 175 people, making it well worth provincial investment.



Josefine Singh stands in front of her painting series, titled Reportage 2014. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

# Never too old for art

## EDUCATION

## Woman's exhibit has been 65 years in the making



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton painter Josefine Singh waited 65 years to pursue her passion and is still reluctant to call herself an artist.

"I'm becoming one," she says with a laugh.

Singh, now 70, just recently graduated from the Visual Arts Certificate Program at the U of A and is now showing a series of

her paintings inspired by photojournalism, Reportage 2014, at the school.

A native of Nuremberg, Germany, she grew up inspired by renaissance painter Albrecht Dürer, a hero of her hometown.

In her youth, and later during her nursing studies in London, she says she "painted to get rid of emotions."

"Whenever I felt upset, I would take the paintbrush and get rid of it," she said.

Singh migrated to Canada in 1972, had five kids and supported her family with a nursing job until June 2010, when she turned 65, retired and enrolled at the U of A.

"I said to myself, 'When I was young I wanted to take the brush and learn.... Now I have



**I wanted to learn everything; I wanted to be detailed, like the old masters.**

Josefine Singh

the time to paint," she said. "So in September (2010), I started my classes."

She took nearly every art course in the program, giving a reverence to the goal of "naturalistic" oil painting by first establishing a steady hand with pencils.

"I wanted to learn everything; I wanted to be detailed, like the old masters.... I was trying to find

out how they painted and I've learned a lot," she said.

Her Reportage series was her final project for her course work.

The idea to base artwork off newspaper images is drawn from her youth in war-torn Nuremberg, where she spent days pouring over newspapers and photojournalism.

For Reportage, she read Edmonton's papers every day seeking "expression-full" faces.

She said the scenes capture emotive moments, as photojournalism does, and challenged her to adhere to the "naturalistic" realism of Dürer and his contemporaries.

Singh will be available at her exhibit for a meet-and-greet on Oct. 10 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Enterprise Square Atrium.

## IN BRIEF

### Saretzky to undergo psych assessment

The man accused of killing a two-year-old southwestern Alberta girl and her father earlier this month has been ordered to undergo a 30-day psychiatric assessment.

Derek Saretzky made an appearance Wednesday via video link in a Lethbridge courtroom. The 22-year-

old had a solemn demeanour, with his eyes downcast much of the time.

Saretzky is back behind bars after being taken to hospital last week. Media outlets have quoted sources as saying he tried to commit suicide by hanging himself.

The case is due back in court in Lethbridge on Oct. 29. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# City corporation a 'risk'

## LAND DEVELOPMENT

### Administration recommends scaled-down business model



**Ryan Tumilty**  
Metro | Edmonton

The city could still get into the land-development business, but a report going to council next week recommends using a lean, efficient model if it does.

Earlier this year, council asked its administration to look into setting up a municipal development corporation. Similar corporations exist in other cities and they market and develop city land, usually in places where private industry declines to go.

Walter Trocenko, branch manager of corporate properties, said when the city studied the numbers it felt a corporation on the scale of what other cities have done would have too much financial risk for Edmonton, with only



The land around the former Rosedale power plant has been discussed at council as a project that a stand-alone development corporation could take on. COURTESY CITY OF EDMONTON

narrow returns.

"The numbers were so slim that we all agreed it didn't make sense," he said.

Instead, city administration recommends a small company with minimal staff that would focus on just a few projects and work with private industry to

**The numbers were so slim that we all agreed it didn't make sense.**

Walter Trocenko

get the results the city wants.

"This is a highly flexible, highly nimble adaptive approach," he said.

Trocenko explained the corporation has the potential to develop properties that could really build the city, but the numbers have to add up as well.

"We were trying to find that point on the financial and risk continuum that made sense," he said.

The report going to council notes private developers have some reservations about the idea of the city jumping into the business.

Laurie Scott, chair of the Edmonton chapter of the Urban Development Institute, said in part they don't understand the need for a new company given that the city is already doing development in the Quarters and at Blatchford.

"The city is basically already involved in the municipal development business through a number of projects already underway," he said.

Scott said there has always been a lot of risk in land development and adding a city-run business could be the tipping point for pushing some developers away from the city.

He said they would rather have the city focus on core services and infrastructure.

"The money is better spent doing things that are their primary role."

## HEALTH

### Province to start paying for vision-loss drugs

The Alberta government has announced a new pilot project that it says will provide more treatment options for Albertans suffering from vision loss, and save patients approximately \$300 every year.

Albertans will be able to choose treatment with either Lucentis or Avastin, both of which treat age-related macular degeneration, diabetic macular edema, retinal vein occlusion and other retinal conditions as of Thursday.

Under the program, the Alberta government will cover the cost of Avastin to prevent vision loss.

There will be no co-payment for patients under the program, which will save seniors \$25 per injection, or \$300 per year for most patients. These patients will also be able to receive treatment directly from their doctors, simplifying their access to treatments. An estimated 7,000 Albertans will be eligible to participate in the pilot project, based on advice from their physicians. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

### Proposed rezoning in Boyle Street for Transit-Oriented Development

Thursday, October 8, 2015, 7:00 p.m.  
Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre  
11050 90 Street NW, Edmonton, AB

Residents and business owners are invited to a public meeting to share their thoughts about a proposal to rezone the following properties in the Boyle Street neighbourhood: 10930, 10950, & 11018 – 84 Street NW; 8412–110 Avenue NW; and 8508, 8512, 8514 and 8516 – 106A Avenue NW.

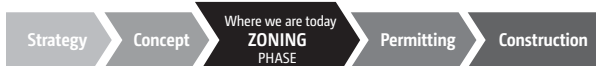
The proposed rezoning would accommodate a Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) of mixed density residential and neighborhood commercial uses with buildings ranging from 14 to 120 metres tall, and two pocket parks. A major part of the proposed project includes the creation of a "main street," which would enhance pedestrian and vehicular connectivity between Commonwealth Stadium, Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre, Downtown and the river valley.

The proposal also includes amending applicable policies and maps in the the Boyle Street / McCauley Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP) to reflect the proposed rezoning from a Direct Development Control Provision (DC1) and Medium Industrial Zone (IM) to a new Direct Development Control Provision (DC1).

The meeting will be an opportunity to learn more about the proposal and provide feedback to the City and the applicant, Stantec. Feedback will be summarized in a report to city council for a final decision on the rezoning.

#### For more information

Marty Vasquez, Planner, Phone 780-496-1456 or Email [martyvasquez@edmonton.ca](mailto:martyvasquez@edmonton.ca)



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- Ensure consistent service quality and enhance the Customer Experience to drive customers to Loyalty.
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- Achieve monthly, quarterly and annual revenue targets in assigned corridors
- Ensure UAE Exchange internal policies and procedures are followed in all activities.
- Promote, cross-sell and up-sell UAE Exchange products and services
- Establish and develop business relationships and effectively identify and communicate appropriate foreign exchange solutions
- Adhere to all requirements of Anti-Money Laundering policy and procedure
- Perform other branch duties as may be required and assigned by branch head.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum 1 year's experience working in customer service
- Prior experience in financial services industry and knowledge of banking, foreign exchange currencies products and services considered an asset
- Experience working with MS Office Suite
- Strong interpersonal skills with a focus on customer service
- Good communication and listening skills
- Ability to ask probing questions to understand needs of customer
- Strong attention to detail; ability to quickly detect errors or omissions.
- Results oriented, self-motivated, and can-do attitude
- Must be a quick learner with an aptitude for grasping new knowledge; able to successfully complete job required courses and training.
- Good aptitude for numbers; able to count and balance cash on a daily basis.
- Ability to work well under pressure; able to remain calm and professional when dealing with difficult people.
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## SMALL BUSINESS

# Wage hike no problem



**Andrea Ross**  
Metro | Edmonton

Cutting staff and lowering food quality to compensate for an increased minimum wage wasn't an option for a popular downtown restaurant.

Il Pasticcio manager Mandy Beaton said the government mandated \$1.50 hourly increase paid to staff, which starts today, won't negatively affect the family-owned Oliver eatery.

"You can't cut staff to save money, because then the quality of service will go down and your customer base could be hurt with poor service," she said. "The wage increase isn't too drastic, so everything will be fine for now."

Servers and other restaurant workers handling alcohol will see a wage increase from \$9.20 to \$10.70 per hour starting Oct. 1. Other minimum-wage workers will now make \$11.20 per hour, up from \$10.20.

The shift is part of the province's plan to implement a universal \$15 minimum wage by 2018. Approximately 38,000 workers in Alberta earn minimum wage.

Beaton said the increase will benefit back-of-house kitchen staff who don't receive as many tips as servers. But, she said, servers across the industry may eventually end up paying a bigger "tip out" to the kitchen and management in the years to come to deal with the increased wage.

The change puts Alberta in the "mainstream" with minimum wages in other provinces, University of Alberta Department of Economics Fellow Robert Asch said. "They're all generally in the \$10 to \$11 range," he said. "But if oil prices rebound, I think employers will be able to cope with this a little bit better."



**Jeremy Derksen, writer and cyclist, makes a case for bicycle lanes, during the Edmonton Social Planning Council's Lunch & Learn event at the Stanley Milner Library on Wednesday.** BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

# Trail closures anger Edmonton cyclists

## TRANSPORTATION

## Bike riders among chorus of frustrated commuters



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Edmonton

While road closures frustrate commuters, transit users groan at delays and cabbies protest in city hall, Edmonton's cyclists also have frustration.

Intermittent and unan-

nounced trail closures continue to anger the cycling community, according to Chris Chan of the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters Society (EBCS).

Chan said physical barriers on the High Level Bridge, Mill Creek Ravine and Saskatchewan Drive not only inconvenience cyclists, but also serve as symbolic barriers that detract from the city's vision for active transportation.

"It's frustrating every time you get to one of these barriers and discover, once again, there is a trail closed and no information about it," Chan said.

He thinks it's indicative of a disconnect between some parts

of the city organization committed to improving cycling in Edmonton, and other parts, whose "main focus continues to be moving private automobiles."

In a post on the EBCS website, Chan recently called for a "culture change," and invited cyclists to share pictures of closures to "hold the city to its vision" of a more cycling-friendly Edmonton.

Beyond the respect of trail closures being posted on the city's website, other cycling advocates are making the case for more bike lanes overall.

At a lunch-and-learn event

held at the Stanley Milner Library on Wednesday, Jeremy Derksen, a writer and cycling advocate, made his case for why Edmonton needs more bike lanes.

Derksen cited examples like Portland Oregon where major investments in cycling infrastructure — still a fraction of car-centric infrastructure — was a cost-effective way of reducing congestion by enabling more people to choose bikes for their daily commute.

"As a culture we need to get over the idea that bike lanes are going to hurt drivers and cause congestion, it's the exact opposite," he said.

metr The Syrian Crisis  
Local support

# Sponsor facing backlash



**Lucie Edwardson**  
Metro | Calgary

Sam Nammoura said he only wanted to do the right thing, and he is feeling a bit disheartened after being on the receiving end of some harsh comments.

Metro Calgary first introduced Nammoura as one of the sponsors of a struggling Syrian refugee family who had recently experienced an outpouring of community support, thanks to the work of Calgarians Nammoura and Saima Jamal.

When Metro reported that the family still needed help in many ways, despite the outpouring of local support, Nammoura's phone number was attached so willing Calgarians could get in touch and find out how they could help.

After the initial "overwhelmingly positive responses," Nammoura said things took a dark turn, and he started to receive angry, and sometimes hateful messages about the work he was doing, the people he was helping and the refugee crisis in general.

"They were trying to make me feel like I didn't appreciate my country or the help the government has given the refugees," said Nammoura. "We do appreciate it. The families appreciate it. But, even though so much has been done, it doesn't mean we can be selfish and drop them."

Nammoura said it all comes down to one word: "compassion."

"We need compassion for everyone. These are human issues, not refugee issues," he said.

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# A little more than a game

## TECHNOLOGY

### U of A students make program that could save newborn lives



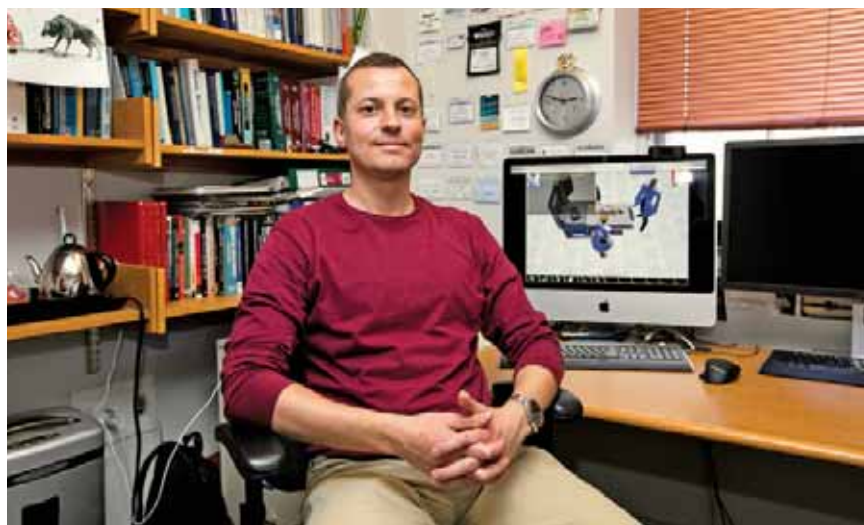
**Andrea Ross**  
Metro | Edmonton

An educational video game developed by six University of Alberta students could help save the lives of newborns.

Resuscitation Training for Neonatal residents is an interactive video game that simulates the steps necessary to revive a newborn baby who is not breathing.

The program was developed last winter when the Royal Alexandra Hospital asked the U of A's computing science department to create a program that could help train medical interns who had only practised on mannequins.

"The idea was not to replace, but to complement the current training methods,"



**U of A professor Vadim Bulitko worked with six undergraduate students to create the educational video game for neonatal health professionals.** KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

computing science professor Vadim Bulitko said.

The game trains medical professionals by presenting problems that would be seen in a real medical scenario, making the player use their judgement and knowledge to

solve them. Players assume the role of a medical intern in the game, and play alongside doctors and nurses who are voiced over to instruct the student on specific tasks.

The medical community has reacted positively to the

game so far, Bulitko said.

"People buy video games and spend sleepless nights playing them," he said. "If you can achieve even a fraction of that fun and excitement with training tools, then people will want to train."

**“It's not just making a game for entertainment, it's making a game that can help people train and save lives.”**

Vadim Bulitko

**9,000**

Number of newborns that die each year around the world from asphyxia during birth.

**10%**

Amount of newborns who need breathing assistance after birth.

## SPIDER-MABLE

### Spins a shirt, any size



**Braeden Jones**  
Metro | Edmonton

The story of Spider-Mable continues to echo through the city, as more than 100 have ordered charitable "Spider-Mable saved my Monday" T-shirts.

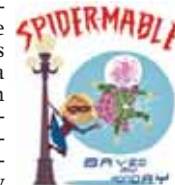
Edmonton artist Jason Blower designed the shirts after fol-


lowing six-year-old Mable Tooke's day as a hero when saved Oilers captain Andrew Ference

from the villain Mysterio — and everybody's Monday.

"On what is normally a dreary day, there was something to follow along with and bring up your spirits ... that's where the theme came from," Blower said.

The shirts will be available for pre-order until Oct. 16 at spidermable.printmachine.ca.






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## HEALTH

# Menthol cigarettes nixed from shelves



**Tim Querengesser**  
Metro | Edmonton

The menthol cigarette, long the poison of choice for people seeking cigarettes flavoured like a breath mint, will come off store shelves for good on Thursday.

But pandemonium, widely anticipated, has not ensued.

Indeed, on its last day as a minty, legal vice sold at corner marts Wednesday, the menthol cigarette was playing it coy, with just one woman discovered smoking it outside her office.

"Right now, I've bought two extra packs," said Nadia Savorn, who, like most smokers spoken to Wednesday, didn't start smoking menthols.

"I started with ultra light," she said, grinning.

Savorn said if she wants more of her favourite Benson & Hedges menthols, she doesn't anticipate trouble after tomorrow.

"I can order them online from Saskatchewan," she said. "It's cheaper."

And Savorn said she expects the same of most who smoke menthols.

"I don't think the ban will have any impact. If you want to ban smoking,

ban the whole thing — not just a flavour. It doesn't make sense."

The Alberta Government banned men-

thol-flavoured tobacco, having already banned most other flavoured tobacco products. It says approximately one-third of youth smokers choose menthol tobacco.

It also estimates 3,000 people die from tobacco-related illnesses each year.



**I equate them with old people.**

Don Crippen

## CONNOR MCDAVID

## Oilers' ticket sales soaring on StubHub

Connor McDavid is already helping the Edmonton Oilers off the ice.

Even before the start of the NHL regular season, the addition of the top draft pick has seen Oilers' ticket sales climb 131 per cent compared to last year on the secondary market, according to StubHub.com.

McDavid's arrival has catapulted Edmonton from 16th to sixth-best selling team on the ticket resale website.

"It's not just Connor McDavid, it's the idea that he's the first since Mark Messier and Wayne Gretzky to really bring a lot of buzz to

the town," said Jeff Poirier, StubHub Canada country manager. "I think there's not just renewed hope around that, but there's also this sort of nostalgic thing going on around Rexall Place and the fact that that's going to be replaced by Rogers Place."

Poirier suggested that there could be extra demand for Oilers tickets at the end of the season with the expectation that there would be a special ceremony at Rexall Place, where the classic Edmonton teams of the 1980s and early 1990s won their five Stanley Cups. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Filling the vacancy left by now-MLA Sarah Hoffman, Bridget Stirling is the new Ward G School trustee for the Edmonton Public School Board. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

# The new voice for the city's public schools

## INTERVIEW

## Metro sits with Bridget Stirling to discuss her goals, obstacles

**Rhonda Kronyk**  
For Metro | Edmonton

On Monday, Bridget Stirling was elected as the Ward G school trustee, filling the vacancy Sarah Hoffman left when she successfully ran to become an MLA in May.

Metro Edmonton sat down with Stirling to talk about her goals for the coming two years.

**Metro:** Why do you want to be a school trustee?

**Stirling:** I've been passionate about education issues since high school, where I saw the effects of funding cuts and wanted to have a voice in the process.

I am also interested in the board's role in the larger issues of urban planning and urban growth. Schools are a key part of how our communities grow.

**Metro:** What are the challenges facing the Edmonton Public School Board?

**Stirling:** One of our biggest problems is a lack of space. We are building new schools, but we are also seeing a return of families into mature com-



**Some of our needs are simple to meet: Make sure children are adequately fed and get early learning support so they are on a level playing field.**

Bridget Stirling

munities. We need to balance the needs of mature and new communities.

As Edmonton is an increasingly diverse city, we are making sure to meet the needs of our English language students and Indigenous students.

**Metro:** What are your goals for your tenure?

**Stirling:** One of my specific goals is to work with the city on the End Poverty Edmonton

initiative.

There are specific things we can do to support and ensure stable funding for the morning snack and lunch funding and we need to consider whether we should be expanding that.

The other piece where the board can play a key role is continuing to advocate for full-day kindergarten, because it helps children who come from challenges in early life.

Edmonton  
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# READY TO ENGAGE

Metro's coast-to-coast daily election series connects young, urban Canadians to the issues they care about



## VOTER PROFILE

**Name:** Bailey Reid **Age:** 30 **Riding:** Ottawa Vanier  
**Her issues:** Violence against women, women in leadership roles

# Wanted: Focus on women's issues



**ROSEMARY WESTWOOD**  
in Ottawa

One thing dominates Bailey Reid's politics: The inequality of the sexes.

"You can talk about representation in Parliament, you can talk about child care, you can talk about violence against women, but I think that it does need that deeper analysis to show these are all results of women not being equal in Canada," she says.

Reid called Stephen Harper "the most absent" from the discussion. Neither he nor his status of women minister participated in the recent leader event devoted to women's issues — which touched on child care, violence against women, and women in leadership roles.

While NDP's Thomas Mulcair and Liberal's Justin Trudeau participated, Reid found those leader's analyses missed that point. No leader has been identifying inequality as the root

cause, nor underlining the ludicrousness of segregating key issues for half the voting public under the ill-fitting "women's issues" banner — with the exception of Elizabeth May.

"Part of me wants to vote Green because I'm sick of (Elizabeth May) being ignored," Reid says. The Green leader was barred from the debates on the economy and on foreign policy, and Reid seems incredulous that a feminist reading of economic policy was missing from the other leaders' comments.

"It would be nice to see a woman taken seriously, and it does feel very, pat pat on the head, 'That's cute Miss May, but you can't come.'"

But Reid won't be voting Green, because her local candidate doesn't have good odds.

The 30-year-old's riding, Ottawa Vanier, is staunchly Liberal, and likely to remain so. Reid says her natural political home has been the Liberal Party, so she's likely

voting that way again on Oct. 19. But she admits to some waffling. She likes the NDP's strategies on violence against women and national child-care plans.

Justin Trudeau's opaque comments that misogyny is fuelled by "certain kinds of music" and absent fathers certainly didn't impress Reid. "I wish he had a really good gender adviser," she quips. But the Liberals' promise to bring gender equity to cabinet is promising, she says, and so too the promise of a missing and murdered indigenous women inquiry. Trudeau is clearly willing to talk about inequality and sexism, she adds.

And that's the least that Reid is hoping for in this election: A prime minister willing to start talking more about women.

Rosemary Westwood is travelling across the country talking to young voters. She'll be in Toronto on Thursday.

# 'Fastest-growing industry' ignored

## Tech industry is accusing leaders of poor planning



**Gilbert Ngabo**  
Metro | Toronto

Federal leaders must show concrete plans on how technology will feature into their vision of the country, a local tech company has said.

Just days after founders of Lighthouse Labs wrote to Stephen Harper, Justin Trudeau and Thomas Mulcair expressing the tech community's disappointment over the lack of discussion on how to boost the country's economy through technology, Liberals responded swiftly.

Justin Trudeau announced Tuesday in Winnipeg a \$900-million commitment to advance tech innovations and startup incubators.

"That's what we've been looking for from every leader," said Jeremy Shaki, co-founder of the web and mobile software development company. He described Trudeau's move as "phenomenal" but was quick to add sustainability is key.

"I'm not just asking for them to throw money everywhere, but specifically where does tech fit into their plans?" he said.

In the letter, the group had accused leaders of completely ignoring the technology industry in their discussions, and only fo-



**Company critical of commitment to transform the education sector by incorporating technology in the system.** GETTY IMAGES

cusing on short-term things "just to help them win certain votes, overlooking the fastest growing industry in North America."

Shaki remained critical of the leaders' commitment to transform the country's education sector by incorporating technology in the system.

"It's a shame. How are we voting on people when we have absolutely no idea how they'll be approaching these critical issues?" he said.

Groups in the tech industry have done "a phenomenal job" without much support from the government, and it's time leaders commit to promoting technological innovations, he said.

Lighthouse Labs believes most of tomorrow's job markets will require basic levels of web design

and coding. The company has taken its trainings throughout the country, helping a total of its 300 graduates to land jobs with tech companies. Its HTML500 summer series have helped over 2,500 young Canadians learn basic skills in coding for free.

"Coding as a tool is so much like math," said Shaki, adding Canada should emulate nations like the U.K. and introduce coding classes in elementary and high schools, making it a mandatory subject.

"Even if you don't become a developer, knowing to code will help you find creative, logical and critical solutions."

There needs to be a top-down approach, or at least a conversation from the top about how to grow this industry, he said.



**The technology industry has been completely ignored through all debates.**

Jeremy Shaki

## BY THE NUMBERS

# Technology in Education

How other countries around the globe are schooling Canada on the future

</> England's new curriculum teaches the basics of coding as early as **5 years old**

</> Estonia is teaching **first graders** how to create their own computer games



The American "Hour of Code" effort says it has already persuaded **28 MILLION** people to give programming a try.

SOURCE: THE NEW YORK TIMES





Federal finance minister and Conservative candidate Joe Oliver speaks during a news conference in Toronto on Wednesday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Tories defend TPP trade deal

## CARETAKER CONVENTION

### Pact ignores protocol that limits activities during election

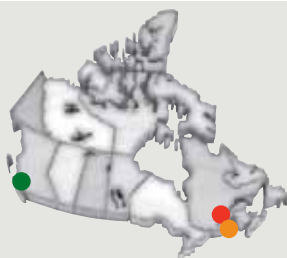
The Conservatives are conducting negotiations toward a massive 12-country trade deal — that could well prove to be their campaign centrepiece — in secret in the middle of an election, the Liberals and NDP charged Wednesday.

As Justin Trudeau unveiled the Liberal health-care policy plank, one of the last remaining pieces of his party's platform, and NDP Leader Tom Mulcair promised to establish a parliamentary science officer to advise his would-be government, the Conservatives were answering awkward questions about the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which could be announced, in some form, as early as Friday.

Joe Oliver, in a rare national campaign appearance, defended the government's right to conduct official business during the election period.

The finance minister rejected suggestions that the govern-

## WHERE THE LEADERS ARE THURSDAY



- **Stephen Harper** has no public events.
- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Montreal.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Montreal.
- **Elizabeth May** will be in Victoria, B.C.

ment's continued pursuit of the TPP is a violation of the so-called "caretaker convention," which is supposed to limit government activity during an election period.

"There is a protocol in place and we of course consult with the Privy Council on these issues," Oliver said.

The convention also stipulates that governing parties are expected to consult opposition parties on matters that could end up tying the hands of future governments.

Trudeau flat out said he had "not been approached by anyone in government on the Trans-Pacific Partnership."

"It would be unrealistic for us

to expect that the whole world will stop and wait with bated breath for the outcome of Canada's election. But what we need to know is that our government is negotiating in a way that is going to enhance Canadian opportunities and growth while protecting our interests."

Mulcair said he is "very worried" about what Prime Minister Stephen Harper is willing to put on the table.

"I don't trust Stephen Harper as a negotiator," he said in Iqaluit. "He's not good at it. He has an ideological bent that means he doesn't care about what happens here at home."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

plaint last Friday about Aubut and has retained Francois Rolland, former Chief Justice of the Quebec Superior Court, to head up an independent investigation.

"Mr. Marcel Aubut has learned of allegations concerning remarks he allegedly made to a colleague," said Aubut in a statement.

"He has offered his un-

conditional support to those responsible for investigating the remarks attributed to him and setting the record straight. This is a normal process that should be completed by mid-October."

The 67-year-old from Quebec was asked to step away from his duties for the duration of the investigation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

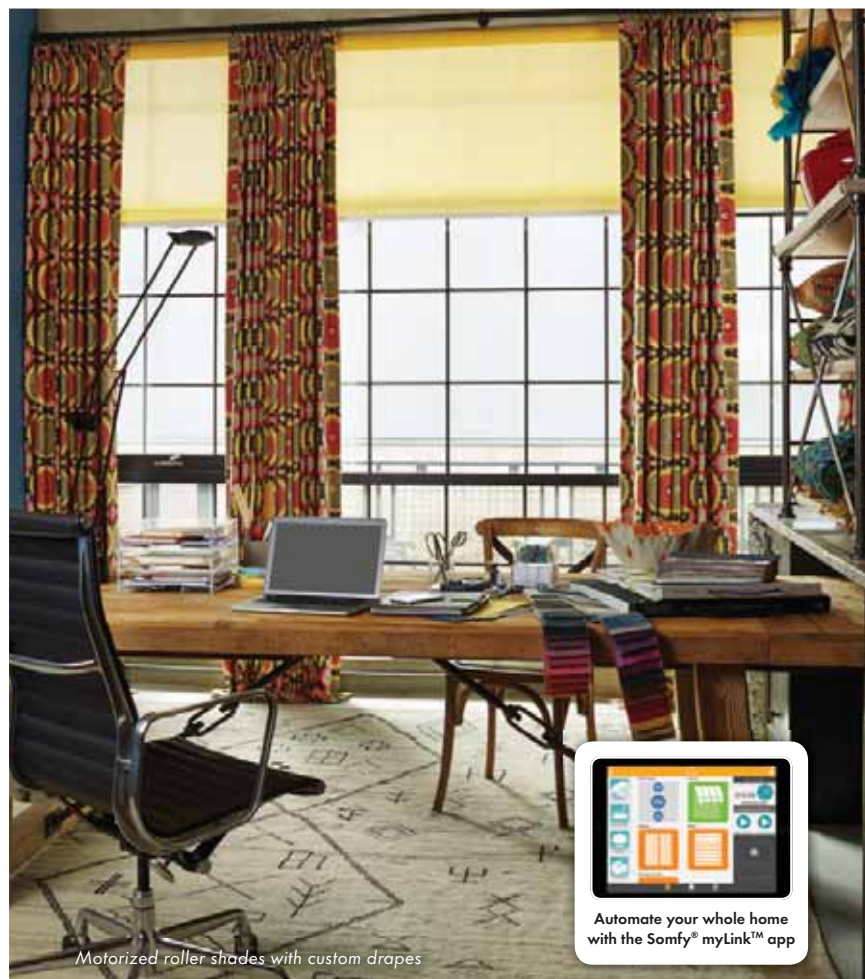
## INVESTIGATION

### President of COC steps down amid allegations of sexual harassment

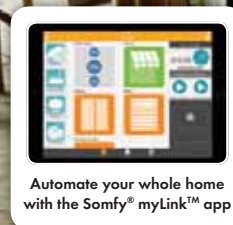
Marcel Aubut stepped down as president of the Canadian Olympic Committee and chairman of the Canadian Olympic Foundation on Wednesday for the duration of a sexual harassment investigation.

The COC received a com-

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# Harper's elite conceit

 **ELECTION 2015**

## Rivals argue PM's remarks intended to divide citizens

 **Michael Woods**  
Metro | Ottawa

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is fostering division when he suggests that elite opinion is "completely divorced" from what ordinary people think, opposition candidates said Wednesday.

In an interview with Metro on Tuesday, Harper was asked about his past comments on "elites."

"It's not that elite opinion doesn't matter," he said. "Expert opinion always counts. But you cannot govern well, and you cannot govern properly, unless you understand the values and realities of ordinary Canadians."

As an example, he cited the government's law that allows them to strip people convicted of terror offences of their Canadian citizenship if they have citizenship from another country.



**Stephen Harper greets supporters in Richmond Hill, Ont., on Tuesday. Metro asked the Tory leader Tuesday about his comments on expert advice.** NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

He said the other parties' opposition to the law is "elite political correctness on steroids."

However, Ottawa's NDP and Liberal candidates said Harper is simply trying to divide Canadians.

"Elite" is really anyone who disagrees with his ideological views," said Ottawa Centre Liberal candidate Catherine McKenna. "It could be the courts,

the media, human-rights organizations, often the legal community or senior bureaucrats in the public service," she said.

Paul Dewar, the NDP incumbent in Ottawa Centre, said the Conservatives are trying to use the citizenship revocation law as a wedge issue. He added that the Conservative government has often ignored or not sought the advice of public servants in

creating certain laws.

"They just stovepipe it: they just go around the public service. They have their own point of view, and it gets right into law.... The end result, often, is a court challenge, and the laws are thrown out," he said. "The public service, the Supreme Court, anyone who has any background knowledge in this case in law is considered an elite."

### DEMOCRACY

## Brothers build site to track MP voting

Shay Neufeld was just looking for a way to track MPs' voting records in the House of Commons.

It seemed like something that should exist. Neufeld wanted to see how members of Parliament voted on Bill C-51, the government's anti-terror law.

He found openparliament.ca, a definitive resource. But with many different readings of each bill and no way to easily track a single MP's voting record, it wasn't what he needed.

"I was shocked as a democratic citizen that the government didn't make it easier for me to search through the votes that I wanted to look for," said the 27-year-old Vancouver native, a PhD candidate in neuroscience at Harvard University.

When he realized no such tool existed, he decided to create one. He enlisted his brother Braden, 23, a programmer and website designer.

The result is votes.mp, a searchable website that displays MPs' voting records dating back to 2006. It's searchable by member, riding, postal code, bill number and name and allows users to look at a single

politician's voting history in the House of Commons.

"We really just wanted to come down to a simple tool for people to use for a single purpose," Braden Neufeld said.

They started in June, using data from openparliament.ca. With the election coming up, they sped up their work. The website went live Sept. 19.

**“**

**I couldn't believe it. I said, 'Do we really not have something for this?'**

Braden Neufeld

The brothers said the site has been garnering a couple of thousand views a day. During Monday night's leaders debate, traffic on the site spiked whenever a particular bill was mentioned.

"We're open to suggestions for tools people are looking for," Shay Neufeld said. "This is a good start, but we're also looking to grow."

MICHAEL WOODS/METRO IN OTTAWA

### HEALTH

## Gut bacteria may affect asthma risk, say researchers

Canadian researchers have discovered that babies at high risk of developing asthma may have low levels of four types of bacteria in their gastrointestinal tracts — and boosting those microbes may help prevent the disease.

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease that clogs the airways with mucus, causing an affected person to have difficulty breathing. The disease kills roughly 250 Canadians each year, about 20 of them children.

The condition arises when the immune system — which

develops early in life through interactions with bacteria and other microbes in the gut — goes awry and attacks lung and airway tissues, causing them to overreact to allergens like pet dander and other environmental triggers.

A research team led by University of British Columbia scientists identified four bacteria that appear to be involved with the development of asthma when deficient in numbers.

Dubbed FLVR — for Faecalibacterium, Lachnospira, Veillonella and Rothia — these bacteria

are typically acquired by babies from the environment. They are among trillions of bugs that make up the human "microbiome" and are critical for keeping us healthy.

But factors such as being born via C-section, having formula over breastfeeding and taking bacteria-destroying antibiotics early in life can alter the makeup of so-called good bacteria in the digestive system.

"This research supports the hygiene hypothesis that we're making our environment too

**“**

**This discovery gives us new potential ways to prevent this disease.**

Dr. Stuart Turvey

clean," said co-lead investigator Brett Finlay of the University of British Columbia.

The researchers, whose find-

ings appeared Wednesday in Science Translational Medicine, made that determination after analyzing fecal samples from 319 children enrolled in the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) study.

Analysis of samples taken at three months of age found that 22 babies shown by allergy testing to be at very high risk of asthma had decreased FLVR levels in their gut flora compared to children at little or no risk.

However, the researchers found fewer differences in FLVR

levels among the children at one year of age, suggesting the first three months of life are a critical period for the gut microbiome to help train the immune system.

"(This discovery) shows there's a short — maybe 100-day — window for giving babies therapeutic interventions to protect against asthma," said co-lead researcher Dr. Stuart Turvey of BC Children's Hospital.

Testing needs to be done in larger groups of children to confirm the findings, said the researchers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# Pope tells Davis: 'Stay strong'

## RELIGION

## Secret meeting confirmed by Vatican baffles LGBT activists

Defiant Kentucky clerk Kim Davis met briefly with Pope Francis during his historic U.S. visit, an encounter she said validates her crusade against gay marriage.

"He held out his hand to her and she grasped his hand," her attorney, Mat Staver, told The Associated Press. "He asked her to pray for him and she said she would; she asked the pope to pray for her, and he said he would."

The Vatican essentially confirmed the meeting: The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, given the opportunity to deny it took place, declined to do so and said merely that he would have no comment. The Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, said the meeting was private and that no photos would be released.

Davis, an Apostolic Christian, became a protagonist in



Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis said meeting the Pope with her husband has inspired her to continue to fight for her religious beliefs. TIMOTHY D. EASLEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

America's divisive culture wars when she defied the federal courts by refusing to license same-sex marriages despite the landmark Supreme Court ruling that effectively legalized them nationwide. She spent five days in jail until her deputies agreed to issue licences without her approval.

Davis and her husband met with Francis alone for less than 15 minutes at the Vatican Em-



**Pope Francis needs to state clearly where he stands in regard to the inclusion of LGBT people in the church and society.**

Francis DeBernardo

bassy in Washington, Staver said. He would not say who initiated the meeting with the pope or how it came to be, citing a desire to be "deferential to the Vatican."

They chose to keep the meeting a secret while the pope was in the county, to avoid overshadowing his visit with the controversy that follows Davis, Staver said.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of

Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, also referred questions back to the Vatican.

"It was really very humbling to even think that he would want to meet me or know me," Davis told ABC News. "Just knowing that the pope is on track with what we're doing and agreeing, you know, it kind of validates everything."

For some, the pope's decision to meet with a figure as divisive as Davis sullied the legacy of his celebratory visit.

DignityUSA, an advocacy group for gay and lesbian Catholics, called their meeting "deeply disappointing" and said it could transform the public perception of the trip "from a largely successful pastoral visit to the endorsement of an exclusionary political agenda."

"That Pope Francis met privately in Washington, D.C. with Kim Davis throws a wet blanket on the good will that the pontiff had garnered during his U.S. visit last week," wrote Francis DeBernardo, the executive director of New Ways Ministry, another Catholic organization that advocates for gay rights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## ISIL INTERVENTION

## Russia calls for unified combat

Russia followed its launch of airstrikes in Syria with a call on Wednesday for the world to unite in the fight against terrorist groups, and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told foreign ministers of world powers that his country was circulating a draft UN Security Council resolution to help make it happen.

Secretary of State John Kerry responded by announcing that the United States is prepared to welcome Russia actions in Syria if they are directed at the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group and al-Qaida, and promising that the U.S.-led coalition fighting ISIL in Syria would "dramatically accelerate our efforts."

Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem told the council that his country strongly endorses Russia's latest moves and called airstrikes in Syria that aren't coordinated with his government a "blatant contravention" of international law. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## ARABIAN PENINSULA

## U.S. Navy seizes ship hauling illicit arms

A ship carrying illicit arms believed to be from Iran was intercepted last week off the southern Arabian Peninsula by a member of a U.S.-backed naval coalition and was not registered with any country, the U.S. Navy said Wednesday.

The description of the ship's seizure conflicted in some instances with an earlier account provided by a separate Saudi-led coalition battling Yemen's Shiite rebels, which claimed in a state-

ment carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency that it had foiled the smuggling attempt.

The Saudi coalition alleged that Iran was using the vessel to ship arms to the rebels, charges denied by Tehran.

The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, said a member of the Combined Maritime Forces, a long-standing multinational coalition, intercepted the vessel in international waters last Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## IN BRIEF

### Uncovered monument may have been for Hephaestion

An opulent underground monument in northern Greece that caused a stir when excavated last year may have been a symbolic grave — but not the final resting place of — the closest friend and general of ancient warrior-king Alexander the Great, the excavator says. Archeologist Katerina Peristeri said Wednesday she believes the vaulted structure "was a funerary monument for Hephaestion."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Ohio man unaware of stolen painting hanging in home

An Ohio man says he had no idea an 18th-century painting hanging in his home for over 20 years had been looted from a Polish museum by the Nazis during World War II.

John Bobb learned that history when the FBI's Cincinnati office called in July.

Bobb was told the "Portrait of a Young Man" by Krzysztof Lubieniecki had been stolen from the National Museum in Warsaw in 1944. It's been returned to Polish officials.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## MIGRANT CRISIS

## Relief agencies set up camp in Greece

Relief agencies have set up a tent city at Greece's border with Macedonia to cope with the growing number of migrants trying to reach central Europe ahead of winter — with some resorting to extreme measures to complete the journey.

The facilities that have been set up over the past week have a capacity of 1,000 to serve one of the busiest bottlenecks in the country, near the Greek border town of Idomeni.

In the past 24 hours, some 4,500 people arrived at the Idomeni crossing, most of them by bus from Athens, Greek police said.

Syrian English literature student Hussam Jaban, 21, told The Associated Press he swam to a Greek island from the Turkish coast to avoid paying smugglers and keep enough money for the mainland journey through Europe.

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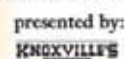
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# Serving a new experience

## MCDONALD'S

### Rebranded ordering options to debut by 2017

McDonald's Canada CEO John Betts says lining up to pay for the same old burger will soon be a thing of the past.

The company is overhauling the way it does business, adding self-service kiosks and bringing table service and dedicated wait staff to its restaurants.

"We are kicking off a bold plan to transform what guests experience when they visit McDonald's restaurants across Canada," says Betts. "We want our guests to walk in and be wowed by an experience that's modern and personalized, but still the McDonald's they know and love."

The new kiosks will allow customers to personalize their orders as McDonald's adds a premium burger to the menu



As part of the shift, the initiative will create 15,000 jobs domestically, and will encourage continued use of food sourced from Canadian suppliers. EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

with nearly 30 different options including five types of cheese, 12 toppings, two buns, a lettuce wrap and nine sauces.

The company says the plan will include the creation of 15,000 new jobs across the country as it adds employees

who will greet customers and guide them through the ordering process.

Betts says most of the 1,400

**“We’re innovating and evolving for the future.”**

CEO John Betts

McDonald's restaurants in Canada will be changed to the new ordering format by 2017.

The company said it is also continuing its mission to provide food that tastes good, and to use quality ingredients, many of which are sourced from Canadian suppliers. Future plans for the restaurant chain will also aim to advance McDonald's sustainability and Canadian sourcing initiatives.

"We always listen to our guests, and this ambitious plan is exactly what they've asked us to do," said Betts. "We're innovating and evolving for the future, and we're excited to bring our guests along on this journey with us." METRO, WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

## AUTO INDUSTRY

### Ford minivans recalled

Ford is recalling nearly 59,000 older Windstar minivans in Canada as part of a wider safety notice because the fix applied in a previous recall for a rear-axle repair might not work.

The latest recall covers 342,000 vans built at the company's Oakville, Ont., plant from 1998 through 2003 sold in both Canada and the U.S.

Ford said Wednesday that the Windstars were recalled in 2010 due to axle cracks that could grow and lead to complete failure and a crash.

Also on Wednesday, Ford said it was recalling 37,000 F-150 pickups from the 2015 model year in the U.S. and Canada to fix a problem with the adaptive cruise control system that automatically brakes the trucks to avoid a crash.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## market minute



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**NATURAL GAS:** \$2.524 US (-6.2¢)  
**DOW JONES:** 16,284.70 (+235.57)

## MEDIA

### Poll says 40% of young adults in U.S. pay for their news

In a world flush with free information, some young people are still willing to shell out for news they read.

A recent poll shows that 40 per cent of U.S. adults aged 18-34 pay for at least some of the news they read, whether it's a print newspaper, a digital news app

or an email newsletter. Another 13 per cent don't pay themselves but rely on someone else's subscription, according to the survey by Media Insight Project, a collaboration of the American Press Institute and the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Older millennials

are more likely than younger ones to personally pay for news.

"Forty per cent is a strong number but that means the majority are not willing to pay," said Keith Herndon, a visiting professor of journalism at the University of Georgia and former journalist.

"We have to think of ways of making the content compelling enough that someone would be willing to pay for it."

The survey of 1,045 young adults was conducted from Jan. 5 through Feb. 2, 2015, by the Media Insight Project, a partnership between the AP-NORC

Center and the American Press Institute, which funded the study.

The survey was conducted using online interviews done with a random sample of adults. Results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.8 percentage points.

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## SOCIAL MEDIA

### Twitter set to announce Jack Dorsey as permanent CEO

Twitter may be about to hire co-founder Jack Dorsey as its permanent CEO three months after he took over the job on a temporary basis.

The technology news site Re/Code says Dorsey's appointment could be announced as early as Thursday morning. The report posted Wednesday

cited unnamed people.

Twitter declined to comment. Its shares climbed nearly 3 per cent in afternoon trading.

If Dorsey is anointed as Twitter's CEO, it would mark his second reign at the San Francisco company that he helped start in 2006. He was Twitter's

original CEO until he was ousted in 2008 in a coup engineered by another company co-founder, Evan Williams.

Although Twitter is among the world's best-known technology companies, it still hasn't posted a profit and its user growth has been slowing.

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## CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON THE NDP IN QUEBEC



**“A repeat orange wave is indefinitely on hold, and things could actually get worse for the New Democrats.”**

Less than a month ago, the NDP was poised to sweep Quebec for the second federal election in a row. Now, a repeat orange wave is indefinitely on hold and things could actually get worse for the New Democrats.

An Abacus poll published on Monday showed the NDP still leading the pack in Quebec, but down 17 points from a mid-September sounding. Other polls have reported a smaller drop but all concur on the trend. As the election gets nearer, Thomas Mulcair's party is falling from grace in Quebec.

There is no doubt the controversy over whether Muslim women should be required to unveil their faces to take the oath of citizenship is acting as a catalyst for the drop in party fortunes.

An overwhelming majority of Quebecers support a niqab ban. The NDP opposes it.

But the New Democrat campaign had started to lose steam before the niqab appeared on the radar, for reasons more fundamental than the pent-up passions unleashed by a Conservative play on the identity front.

From a Quebec perspective the NDP's platform is an overwhelming one.

With the provincial government's cost-cutting crusade already taking a toll on its social programs, it is hard to think of a NDP commitment more likely to miss the mark with Quebec's progressive voters than the come-hell-or-

high-water determination to balance the federal books. If anything, many Quebecers are suffering from an overdose of government-imposed austerity.

The promise of a national universal child-care system has short legs in a province that has set up the most comprehensive program in the country on its own.

Mulcair's call to open the Constitution to abolish the Senate is similarly of limited appeal.

For one, it pits the NDP leader against Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard. He believes the Senate should be reformed, not abolished. And then there is the matter of Quebec's own long-standing constitutional agenda. Couillard insists that a round on the Senate would have to include

it as well.

On that score, Mulcair did not help his cause when he told Radio-Canada two weeks ago that the premier's stance was just part of the game.

Going into the campaign, the NDP leader's Quebec trump card was the sense that he was best placed to beat Stephen Harper. More so than any federal NDP initiative, it was the party's victory in Alberta last spring that cemented Mulcair's formidable pre-campaign lead in his home province. Now the fact that the party is running third in the rest of Canada is sinking in.

At this juncture, the question on everyone's mind is whether the NDP has hit bottom in Quebec or whether it could continue to lose support

between now and the vote.

The short answer is that the New Democrats have no fixed floor of support in Quebec. It has yet to build a solid capital of loyalty.

Mario Dumont, the former leader of the Action Démocratique party, can testify to the perils of that.

In 2007, he came within seven seats of leading his young party to a minority victory against Jean Charest's provincial Liberals. But over the year and a half that followed, Quebecers were unimpressed by the ADQ's performance in official opposition. In an election held 20 short months after he had landed on the doorstep of provincial power, Dumont was left with only seven seats.

If the NDP is to avoid going in a similar tailspin, time is increasingly of the essence. Over the next four days, Mulcair will have his last best two opportunities to reverse the tide.

On Friday, he will take part in the last French-language debate of the campaign on the Quebec private network TVA. Then, on Sunday, Mulcair will appear on *Tout le monde en parle*, Radio-Canada's popular television talk show. Both events are expected to draw large audiences.

But Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau is going into the debate on more of a roll than he is, and the niqab issue that has been the NDP's nemesis in Quebec is bound to come up on both nights.

Mulcair is down two strikes. He desperately needs a home run if he wants his party to still be the Quebec home team after Oct. 19.

**Chantal Hébert** is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

## metroview

### Want to close the pay gap? Women need to talk more about money



**Renee Sylvestre-Williams**  
For Metro

Let's talk about something we rarely talk about: salaries.

Two incidents have shaped my views on salary negotiations.

The first was when I was negotiating my first salary increase. I was at an online media company and had recently taken on new responsibilities and hit some pretty impressive, measurable targets. I wanted a raise because I thought I deserved one. I made an appointment to speak with my boss.

After 30 excruciating minutes, I got a two-per-cent increase with a condescending, "You should be grateful for that." I handed in my notice three months later. I couldn't work for someone who tried to make me feel bad about asking for more money.

Canadian women make significantly lower wages than men for many reasons: A shortfall of women in senior positions, a widespread fear of asking for more and a dearth of conversations at the grassroots level.

**We can help each other understand what we're worth.**

To close the gap, we need to talk about money. We should talk about which companies provide the best work-life balance, which have the best perks and which offer the best pay.

Yet how many of us negotiate our salaries, or have told our friends what we make? Most don't.

According to a report released in May by the WEB Alliance of Women's Business Networks, Canadian women make an average of \$8,000 per year less than men in equivalent positions.

By discussing our salaries with our friends, we can tear down the systemic barriers that stop us from earning the same pay as men. We can help each other understand what we're worth.

And that's how you will get the support you're going to need when, not if, you ask for more money.

The second incident was when I was doing the hiring. We offered the candidate the full salary as budgeted. She asked for more. I told her we had offered her as much as we could afford. And I was so happy that she asked.

So, we need to have this conversation. I'll start. I freelance, so my income depends on how much work I get — but in my best year, I make close to \$70,000.

Now it's your turn.

**Renee Sylvestre-Williams** is the publisher of the *Ethnic Aisle*, a digital magazine about race and ethnicity in Toronto.

## THE MICROTREND: The prolific province



Ah, Saskatchewan. Wholesome, flat Saskatchewan. The province of grain growers, Saskatoon berries, and ... babies? Yes. So many babies. Saskatchewan is bucking the Canada-wide trend towards an aging population. The children from this fertile land still outnumber seniors. According to a new Statistics Canada report, 19 per cent of Saskatchewanians are under 15 years old, compared to a 16 per cent average in Canada. Just 14.6 per cent of the population is 65 or older, versus 16.1 per cent nationwide. Why? In part, it's a growing population of indigenous people, who tend to skew younger and have higher fertility rates. And as for the dearth of old folks — many are retiring elsewhere to escape those cold prairie nights.

SOURCE: NEWS TALK 650/THE CANADIAN PRESS

**From a Quebec perspective, the NDP platform is an overwhelming one.**

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AN IDEALIST IS A PERSON WHO HELPS OTHER PEOPLE BE PROSPEROUS.

  
HENRY FORD





## Not your average chick-lit author

### BOOKS

#### Jojo Moyes releases the sequel to 2013 bestseller

A book that wins millions of fans is a tough act to follow. And British novelist Jojo Moyes was all too aware of this as she wrote *After You*, the sequel to her New York Times bestseller *Me Before You*.

"It has been the most nerve-racking book that I've ever written," she said in an interview. "So many people feel so invested in these characters."

To say that *Me Before You* was an unexpected hit is an understatement.

When Moyes decided to write a romance between a caregiver and her depressed, paralyzed patient, her publisher was lukewarm.

"In hindsight I can understand why," Moyes says with a laugh. "A quadriplegic man who wants to die doesn't sound like the most compelling piece of fiction."

Except, of course, it was. *Me Before You* introduced the world to Louisa Clark, an endearing English everywoman. Her predictable, small-town life was blown open when she went to work for neighbour Will Traynor, a London hotshot who had been paralyzed by a traffic accident.

Their bond was intimate and powerful, but ultimately not enough to save Will from despair — and in the final



British author Jojo Moyes' latest novel *After You* hit shelves this week. HANDOUT

pages they made the journey to Dignitas in Switzerland to end his life.

Hardly your average chick-lit plot, but then Moyes has never been your average chick-lit author.

The former journalist distinguished herself early on from the cocktail-sipping masses.

Known for her wit, humour and cultural savvy, Moyes writes against the grain, sidestepping the familiar tropes of glamor-

ous jobs and syrupy soul mates.

"I have an absolute horror of being seen as somebody who just writes the handsome man who came in and swept her off her feet and everyone lives happily ever after," she says. "I'm far more interested in the messy stuff."

*Me Before You* catapulted Moyes out of this pink ghetto and made her a bona fide literary star.

She was reviewed by serious

publications and tapped by MGM to write the screenplay for *Me Before You*, due to hit theatres in 2016.

Most significantly for Moyes — who's had two family members require around-the-clock care — it placed her at the centre of the assisted suicide debate.

"I don't think you can hang onto a moral absolute if you are faced with the reality of that situation," she says. "The

only people who know all the answers are the people who've never been faced with the questions."

Moyes began to receive daily emails from readers around the world.

"The ones that really stand out to me are from the caregivers," she says. "They get me into the same head space as Lou, which is: you don't see the disability, you see the person that you love."

The character Lou was a lightning rod for all this emotion and people clamoured to know what happened to her. Moyes found herself wondering too.

And so *After You*, out this week, resurrects her. The novel finds Lou holed up in London, reverting back to her old ways, leading a claustrophobic life and tending bar at an Irish-themed airport pub.

"To be part of someone taking their own life would be such a huge event," says Moyes. "I needed to show that there was a cost to those sorts of decisions."

Lou belongs to a comical church basement grief group, The Moving On Circle, but is otherwise alone (until a surprise plot twist blows open her world once again).

"When I put myself in her shoes, I thought: What would you do? You would just be leading this very solitary existence. Because how on Earth could you justify what you've been part of to people who don't know the whole story?"

"That is one of the things that intrigues me and is probably a theme that I'll return to again and again," she says.

"How things look from the outside are not necessarily how they are."

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## GOSSIP BREAKUPS

## Long time coming

Amanda Seyfried has apparently kicked boyfriend Justin Long to the curb after two years of dating, according to Us Weekly. "It happened a few weeks ago," a source explains. "He's really heartbroken." Earlier this year in an interview with Vogue, Seyfried both revealed how she initially fell for Long — on



Instagram, if you can believe it — and hinted that things might not be working out so well.

"I thought something he said was really funny. It was a beautiful picture of a snail, and the caption said, 'F—ing MOOOOOOOOVE.' It made me laugh out loud, so I texted him," she explained.

But: "Making movies is two solid months of 12-, 14-hour

days. I mean, it can ruin your relationship." Apparently she wasn't just talking hypothetically. NED EHRBAR/METRO

## Austin Green wants that green

Poor Brian Austin Green. Not only is he going through a divorce — amicable or not — with Megan Fox, but now everyone gets to see the documents showing him ask-



ing her for spousal support. TMZ got

its hands on the filing this week in which Green valiantly checks the "spousal or domestic partner support" box, indicating that Fox is the bigger earner of the two. Which makes sense since Green has apparently been battling vertigo and not working much since he and Fox were in a car accident last December. Bummer, man. NED EHRBAR/METRO

## O Brother, There art thou

## SCREENING

## Clooney and Coens reunite for film's 15th anniversary

George Clooney joined the Coen brothers, and co-stars Tim Blake Nelson and John Turturro at a special 15th-anniversary screening of *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* at the New York Film Festival.

Clooney remembered he had just left a successful TV series when the opportunity came up.

"I was an actor coming off of *ER*," said Clooney Tuesday night after arriving at the event. "The Coen brothers said, 'Do you want to do a movie?' And I was like, 'Yeah, I'll do a movie with the Coen brothers, are you kidding? They do great films.' I just couldn't believe my luck."

Clooney admits he felt a geographic familiarity with the characters. "I grew up in Kentucky and I kind of know these guys a little bit," he said.

Ethan Coen and his brother, Joel, wrote the screenplay, based on *The Odyssey* by Homer, and directed it. While the film was critically



George Clooney talks with Joel Coen on the red carpet before a special 15th anniversary screening of *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* during the New York Film Festival. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

acclaimed and enjoyed moderate success, the soundtrack was a smash hit. Produced by T Bone Burnett, it was made up of artists from the American roots music scene that included Alison Krauss, Ralph Stanley, Gillian Welch and Emmylou Harris. It sold 8 million albums and earned a Grammy Award for album of the year.

Coen loved how the music and the film unexpectedly came together, but also discussed the tricky marriage of the two.

One of biggest hits from the film, *I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow*, sung by the fictional Soggy Bottom Boys, which included Clooney, Blake-Nelson and Turturro, does not include Clooney's voice. It was actual-

ly bluegrass musician Dan Tyminski.

Clooney told reporters he originally recorded the track, but after he came out of the recording booth, producer Burnett just put his head down and looked away. Clooney said he knew at that moment his voice was getting dubbed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## RELATIONSHIPS

## Ben dumps his nanny

## Ned Ehrbar

Metro | Hollywood



They said it was just a phase, and apparently they were right. Ben Affleck has reportedly called off his post-divorce dalliance with his and Jennifer Garner's former nanny, Christine Ouzounian — to the rejoice of spell-checkers everywhere.

"He cut ties with her recently," a source tells Life & Style. "He told Christine he couldn't handle another relationship when things were still so painful and raw between him and Jen."



Sure, that. And maybe also because you shouldn't date the nanny? I mean, I understand the siren song of convenience and all, but come on. "He had fun with (her), but it wasn't love," the source adds, wistfully.

You know who was totally surprised by this development? Ouzounian herself, apparently, who was "blindsided" by the breakup.

"When Ben finally told Christine things were over, she was pissed," another source says. "Christine is very upset and says Ben should be worried. In her mind, this is far from over."

Oh, delightful.

## VEHICULAR MANSLAUGHTER

## Jenner off the hook

Prosecutors declined to charge Caitlyn Jenner on Wednesday in a California car crash that killed another driver, citing insufficient evidence to support a case.

Authorities said Jenner was towing an off-road vehicle on a trailer behind a Cadillac Escalade on Feb. 7 when she crashed into two cars, pushing one into oncoming traffic. Driver Kim Howe died when her Lexus was hit by a Hummer in Malibu.

"We believed from the start that a thorough and objective investigation would clear Caitlyn of any criminal wrongdoing," said Blair Berk, Jenner's attorney. "We are heartened the district attorney has agreed that even a misdemeanor charge would be inappropriate. A traffic accident, however devastating and heartbreaking when a life is lost, is not necessarily a criminal matter."

The accident occurred before Jenner announced she is transgender and transitioned into her new identity as Caitlyn. Sheriff's investigators previously determined that Jenner, 65, was travelling at an unsafe speed for the road conditions at the time and there was enough evidence to support a vehicular manslaughter charge.

The case was then referred to the district attorney's major crimes division. A prosecutor wrote in a one-page sheet declining to file charges that Jenner was travelling slightly below the posted speed limit and began braking less than two seconds before the crash.

To prove misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter, prosecutors would have had to show Jenner was negligent and had violated a basic speed law.

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# What's old is new again

## CONDO TRENDS

### A look at historic home renos and condo conversions around Canada

**Duncan McAllister**  
For Metro Canada



In a popular real estate trend, former warehouses, churches and industrial buildings all across Canada are being converted into lofts and condos. In addition, a number of new condo builds are incorporating a historic podium or heritage facade, serving as the base of a brand-new tower rising above.

When done right, these venerable residential transformations make for a unique and classical living space, with vaulted ceilings, sash windows, limestone features, exposed brick and period lighting fixtures — exquisite details that you just don't find in contemporary buildings.

The former Eden House at 147 East Gate in Winnipeg was built in 1885, and has a lot of the original character to it. The century home is currently up for sale. "It's got that grand old home feel; it still has the servants' quarters," says real estate agent Tannis Engel.

Originally the Arthur F. Eden house, it's the oldest standing house in Armstrong Point. "It's right in the heart of downtown in a little pocket community along the river," says Tannis. The family has owned the property for 37 years. "It's true to its original size and shape and she (current owner Roslyn Scott) has restored it as accurately as she could."

In Edmonton, Chandos Construction Ltd. jacked-up a five-storey herit-

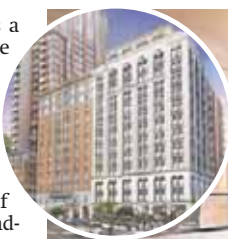


The former Eden House at Armstrong Point in Winnipeg was built in 1885, and still has a lot of its original character. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

age building, previously used as a warehouse, and built a parkade under it. No small feat under any circumstances. The Phillips Lofts at 10169-104th St. is a heritage condo conversion in Edmonton's Warehouse District.

The existing structure of the 90,000-sq.-ft. building consisted of rough-sawn timbers with a post-and-beam configuration. The Chandos design team incorporated these features to maintain the heritage of the building.

The Residences of Royal Connaught at 112 King St. E. in Hamilton, Ont., is a century-old grand hotel that has been meticulously renovated by Valery Homes and the Spallacci Group and converted into



The Residences of Royal Connaught in Hamilton.

modern condominium suites.

An exquisite art-deco lobby is the centrepiece of the heritage restoration. The grand foyer opens up to 23-foot ceilings with crystal chandeliers. Designed by KNY Architects, the completed project will include three new residential towers housing 700 condominium suites in the heart of downtown.

Valery Homes president Ted Valeri says that a project of this magnitude has many challenges. They literally saved the old hotel from the wrecking ball and brought it back to life.

"We've never done anything quite so fulfilling and satisfying," Valeri says. "It's a very rewarding feeling. The Royal Connaught is a special place to Hamiltonians."

## + A 19TH-CENTURY FACADE, A SECRET WAREHOUSE AND MORE

### The Dillon Market Street 2941 Market St., Halifax

This new, eight-storey condominium building rises up from a historic facade from the 1800s. The development by Mosaik Properties is located at Market and Sackville. Built in 1860, the original structure housed a market on the main floor, run by the Dillon family. Dillon's Corner became a lively hub of commerce and the area became known as Market Street.



The Dillon Market Street condos.

### Legendary Warehouse Lofts 1920 Bank St., Ottawa

Legendary Warehouse is a new condominium residence by Linden Developments with 10 storeys and 116 units. Legend has it that the building was a secret warehouse in Ottawa's south side, used to store kegs of whiskey. Currently under construction, the authentic loft-style condo spaces are industrially inspired, with a natural stone and wood lobby. The suites offer a live-work environment.

### Imperial Lofts 220 11th Ave. SE, Calgary

With towering 13-foot ceilings and an open floor plan, these authentic lofts boast exposed brick walls and a concrete framework, with downtown views through industrial-sized windows. Built in 1929 to house the Imperial Tobacco Company, the vintage building was converted to condos in 1995.

### The First Baptist Church 969 Burrard St., Vancouver

Plans are underway in downtown Vancouver to build a 56-storey condominium tower behind the historic First Baptist Church. If approved, the lands of the Gothic-styled church at Burrard and Nelson are about to undergo a major redevelopment in a collaboration with Westbank Corp. and Bing Thom Architects that will include a condominium and community gardens.





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# Brookfield strives to inspire your lifestyle

Buying your first home is a big decision, but it's also an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime moment.

That's why community developer and homebuilder Brookfield Residential makes it its mission to help make buying a home as easy as possible for its clients, says marketing lead Dione Hamilton.

"Brookfield Residential has been crafting award-winning homes in Edmonton for over 10 years," she says, adding the builder continually wins local awards. "Our homes are known for their thoughtful design and remarkable architectural detail at a price you are comfortable with."

Brookfield has received accolades from all over the province, garnering industry attention with awards from the Professional Home Builders Institute (the new homebuyers choice award — multi-family — 150-plus possessions (Edmonton and area) — 2015), the Avid Gold award in 2014, and the PHBI homebuyers choice award for multi-family in 2014.

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single-family homes starting from the low \$200,000s.

"Choose from a wide variety of home models, inspirational floor plans and premium upgrade options like quartz countertops, hardwood flooring, electric fireplace and more," Hamilton says.

Brookfield Residential wants to help people find their dream home, and are in the midst of a great new limited time offer where homebuyers will receive up to \$10,000 in premium upgrades on townhomes, duplexes and single family homes until Oct. 31.

"If you're in the market to purchase a new home, now's the time with this limited offer by Brookfield Residential and low industry interest rates. Quick possessions are also available in all of our product types if you are looking to move in right away."

Hamilton encourages potential homebuyers to visit show homes for more details about the limited time offer. Some conditions apply.

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# The mistakes homebuyers make

## COSTLY

### First-time homebuyers can end up investing in a nightmare

**Analyse Smart For Metro**

Buying a home can be one of the most rewarding decisions you'll make, but make the wrong moves, and you could end up investing in a costly nightmare.

Mike Stewart, a Vancouver-based Realtor®, shares some of the most common mistakes he sees with first-time homebuyers.

#### Not speaking to a lender or mortgage broker first

Stewart says most people wouldn't go shopping without knowing how much money they have in the bank or available credit on their cards, and the same should apply when shopping for a home.

"A lot of first-time homebuyers get out there and say, 'OK, great, my mom says I can get a



Research the real estate agent beforehand so you know there's expertise behind that firm handshake. SHUTTERSTOCK

loan for \$700,000. Let's go find a place," he says. "And then they spend all their time, all their family's time, all their Realtor's time, get an accepted

offer on a property and after a huge big hassle it turns out they can only afford \$200,000."

Talking to a mortgage broker first, he says, will let you know

exactly what you're working with.

#### Not hiring a Realtor

Stewart says you should always

get a Realtor, who will prevent you from making mistakes like overpaying. "Hiring someone who knows what they're doing and you don't have to pay

them — that's worth its weight in gold," he says.

You should also make sure to research the people you will be hiring beforehand.

"The Internet is the most powerful system for doing due diligence on professionals that exists," he says. "If there's nothing on this person, they're probably not very experienced. If there's tons of stuff on this person and it's all positive, chances are you want to work with them. If it says Joe Realtor is a scumbag and he ripped me off, then you don't want to work with that person."

#### Not getting a home inspection

Getting a home inspection saves you from learning unpleasant truths about your home later. Stewart lists some of the possibilities that may await you should you not heed this advice.

"You buy a house with asbestos, you buy a house with mold, you buy a house that's been renovated without permits and you can't get insurance on it — if you can't get insurance, you can't get a mortgage," he says. "Basically, getting a home inspection will help you avoid buying a money pit."

## Flipping versus buying

Real Estate is one of the smartest investments you can make. The long-term trend in Canada is that the value is almost certain to go up — but if you are looking for a quick turnaround, flipping may or may not be right for you.

John Stassen, a designer, contractor, renovator and former host of HGTV's The Big Flip, says buying with the intention of flipping versus a longer-term investment will call for different strategies.

When choosing a home to live in, buyers might be OK with paying a little above market value and won't want major renovations as it is just too disruptive.

Those looking to flip, however, are playing by a different set of rules.

"You're looking for the worst home on the best street, and you can't be afraid of walking away from a deal if the competition drives the price up beyond what your calculations show you can purchase it for," he says. "The most common mistakes made are underestimating the cost of the renovations and overpaying for a property you have chosen as a flip."

Stassen says you also need



You need a lot of working capital for flips. SHUTTERSTOCK

a lot more working capital for flips, with projects he's worked on ranging from under \$30,000 to more than \$180,000.

"You will definitely need access to extra cash and/or reasonable rate financing when taking on a project," he says. "While flipping you can go months

before seeing your profit on a project and you can't be left struggling to pay your own bills."

Choosing the "right" neighbourhood also becomes more important.

"The joke we had was if the area already has a Starbucks in it you'd missed the boat for flip-

### FROM A BROKER

Lina Porretta, a broker with Forest Hill Real Estate in Toronto, says getting financing to flip a home is not as easy as it would be for your home. "Getting a mortgage for a second property isn't as easy as borrowing for your primary residence," she says. "If you aren't able to secure traditional financing, third party lenders charge premiums." Your taxes may also be different, so Porretta advises speaking with your accountant to understand the tax implications of your purchase.

ping," he says. "The key is to find areas that are just beginning to gain popularity."

Stassen says combining traditional home purchasing and flipping can be a great strategy. "If you can afford it the approach of buying a property while residing elsewhere, renovating it then moving in for a year or more before selling can provide the best of both worlds," he says.

**ANALISE SMART/FOR METRO**

## THE HOOD

### How to pick the right location

Location, location, location is the home-hunter's maxim, so how to choose?

Real estate professionals say that what makes something the "right" neighbourhood is as much a personal preference as it is an intrinsic rule.

Ramin Khaze, a sales representative with Forest Hill Real Estate Inc. Brokerage in Toronto, says his advice for choosing the right neighbourhood is the same he would give about choosing the right house.

"They need to keep in mind that there is no perfect neighbourhood just like there is no perfect house," he says. "No matter where you end up you will have to sacrifice something, whether it is the commute to work or a school district for kids, or access to public transportation."

Khaze says homebuyers need to make a list of what they want, with considera-

tions that include everything from budget, to whether they want a new home or an older one, right down to how many bathrooms are needed and what kind of finishes are desired.

Ideally you want to strike the right balance between the home you want and the neighbourhood you want, Khaze says.

"Some clients prefer to sacrifice size and living space to be more in the action .... Other clients would compromise the neighbourhood to have a house where they get what they want in size, bedrooms, land and such," he says. "It goes back what is important to you in a neighbourhood versus what is important to you in a house."

As for concerns about weighing budget against the desire to live in a particular neighbourhood, Khaze says buyers shouldn't stretch themselves too thin.

"I always tell clients to think with their heads and not their hearts, he says. "They may fall in love with a neighbourhood, but they may not end up enjoying it because they have stretched themselves so much financially they can't go out and enjoy it. You want to be comfortable in your new home and new area." **ANALISE SMART/FOR METRO**





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Doctors say it's important for young people and the elderly to receive a flu shot to protect them from the flu virus. SHUTTERSTOCK

# What do doctors prescribe?

## ADVICE

### Handwashing, flu shot are best ways to limit spread of viruses

**Rhonda Riche**  
For Metro

With cold and flu season around the corner, Metro checked in with three doctors from across the country to see what steps they take to prevent or treat viruses.

Here is their advice:

**DR. PIERRE PLOURDE, MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES SPECIALIST, WINNIPEG REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**

#### WHAT STEPS DOES YOUR FAMILY TAKE TO PREVENT COLDS AND INFLUENZA?

"The flu shot, frequent handwashing and plenty of sleep."

#### WHY IS HAND HYGIENE SO IMPORTANT?

"We touch so many things in a day. And kids more than any other age group share more bodily contact and are more susceptible to viruses. Not

everybody who is exposed is going to get sick, but they can still pass it on."

#### HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE WASH UP?

"You don't have to overdo it. What's important is to wash up before you eat or prepare food and after you use the washroom (or help a little one use the washroom) or arrive home from outside."

#### IF A FAMILY MEMBER GETS SICK, HOW DO YOU KEEP THE REST OF THE HOUSEHOLD FROM CATCHING A BUG?

"When a child is sick, you're not going to refuse to cuddle them. In our family, we wash our hands the old-fashioned way — with soap and water — whenever possible at home. Proper handwashing is important when you're sick and when you're well — even a well person can pass on germs they've come into contact with. In a busy household, you'd likely want to have hand sanitizer available in high-traffic areas or for when a sink isn't available."



Research shows that vitamin D may help the immune system. Supplements are a good bet during the winter. SHUTTERSTOCK

**DR. KAREN WILSON, GENERAL PRACTITIONER, TORONTO**

#### HOW DO YOU PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AGAINST FLU?

"We do handwashing and flu shots. I have two kids, aged 12 and 13. Like most people who get the flu, if they get sick they are only out for a couple of days, but for those with weaker immune systems, like the very young or older people, influenza can be damaging. If you have family members in those groups, you need to get a shot to protect them."

#### IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD GETS SICK, HOW DO YOU TREAT THEM?

"Rest. Even if you already have flu, vitamin D may help."

#### WHAT OTHER STEPS CAN ONE TAKE TO STAY HEALTHY?

"Research shows that vitamin D may help boost the immune system. In summer, many people get at least some of their daily requirement of vitamin D from the sun, but during the winter months, when there's not as much light, you may want to consider getting it from vitamin supplements."

**DR. MICHAEL LIBMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE J.D. MACLEAN CENTRE FOR TROPICAL DISEASES AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE**

#### HOW DOES YOUR FAMILY FIGHT OFF COLD AND FLU?

"We're the same as everybody. We get flu shots, practise frequent handwashing. I'd also advise trying not to touch your face. There's no need to get paranoid about your kids getting sick. Being exposed to cold and flu is not a bad thing. As long as young people are relatively healthy, evidence suggests that exposure to these viruses helps children develop some immunity to them."

#### IF A FAMILY MEMBER GETS SICK, HOW DO YOU KEEP THE REST OF THE HOUSEHOLD FROM CATCHING A BUG?

"I say watch your hygiene. Use disposable tissues to cough or sneeze. It's not just family that you want to protect — don't be brave and try to go into work. When you're sick, you are not particularly efficient. Often, when you're sick, you're not doing your colleagues any favours by making them sick."

## + HANDY TIPS

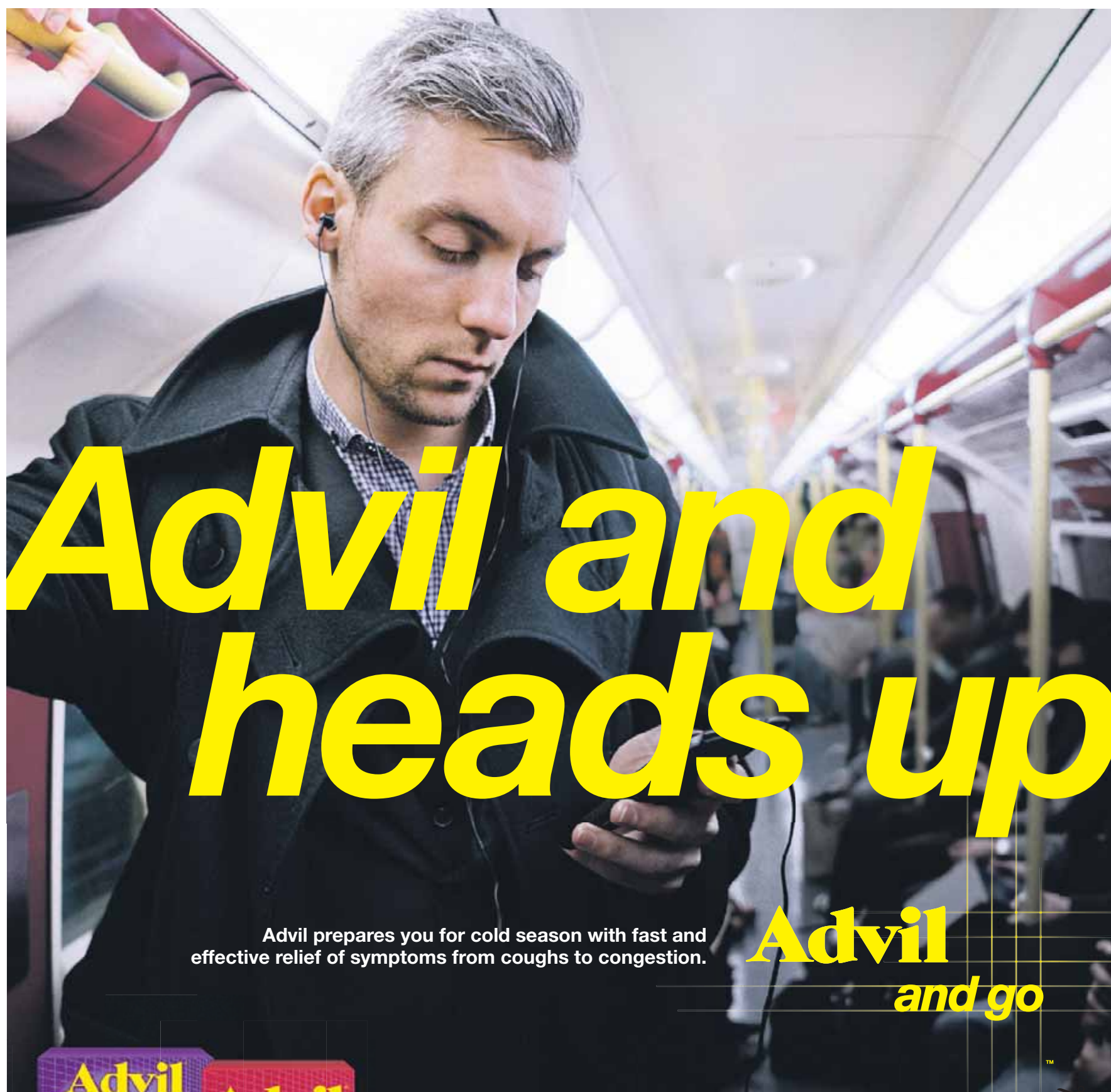
- How long should you wash your hands? Dr. Pierre Plourde of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority recommends washing for at least 30 seconds, or the time it takes to sing Happy Birthday twice.
- Hand sanitizers are great, Plourde said. He recommends one with at least a 60 per cent alcohol concentration. For those with sensitivity to alcohol, he suggests a benzalkonium chloride gel.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue, then wash your hands. If you don't have a tissue, use the crook of your elbow. It spreads fewer germs.

RHONDA RICHE/FOR METRO

#### ANY TIPS ON SPEEDING UP RECOVERY TIMES?

"Unfortunately, there's no magic bullet. All you can do is rest. Get as comfortable as possible and take something like a pain reliever or decongestant if it makes you feel better."





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## Jays have their banner day

The Blue Jays will host Game 1 of one of the American League Division Series on Oct. 8. PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

### MLB

## Party begins fashionably late in Baltimore

Buckets of champagne were ready, just sitting in the visiting clubhouse at Camden Yards. The Toronto Blue Jays celebrated clinching the American League East on the field but had to wait to complete a doubleheader before popping bottles.

The franchise waited 22 years for this. What were another few hours?

Two months of spectacular baseball culminated in a 15-2 rout of the Baltimore Orioles on Wednesday afternoon, ending decades of frustration for fans

and rewarding the Blue Jays' organization for a remarkable turnaround.

"I wake up every day with a huge grin on my face. I wake up every day and it doesn't feel real," pitcher Marcus Stroman said. "Taking the field every day with Josh Donaldson, Troy Tulowitzki, David Price, Mark Buehrle, it's nuts to me."

The Blue Jays, who fell 8-1 in the second game of the doubleheader, were nuts to watch for much of the season but more specifically since July 29, when Tulowitzki joined the lineup amid a flurry of bountiful deadline trades. They've gone 42-15 since, surging past the New York Yankees before finally wrapping up the division in the first game of a doubleheader against the

Orioles.

The pennant is Toronto's first since 1993, when it won its second of back-to-back World Series titles. It assures the Blue Jays a spot in the five-game AL Division Series rather than the uncertainty of a one-game wildcard playoff, which they had already clinched last weekend.

"It's been a really long time since this city has been to the playoffs, so to do it for the City of Toronto and to do it with this

group of guys, it's been a dream come true," Stroman said.

In late July, any kind of post-season appearance would have been welcomed, before general manager Alex Anthopoulos went all-in, trading for an ace in Price, an all-star shortstop in Tulowitzki, a speedy outfielder in Ben Revere and bullpen help in relievers LaTroy Hawkins and Mark Lowe at the deadline.

Those moves

**I think home field (advantage) for us with the environment that we have now at that stadium ... We'd love to get it.**

General manager Alex Anthopoulos



worked like a charm, making the Blue Jays' 50-51 record in late July feel like a distant memory. Winning the division seemed inevitable in recent days as the Yankees struggled and the Blue Jays kept rolling.

The final victory of that accomplishment came Wednesday with young stud Stroman on the mound in just his fourth start of the season following a torn ACL in spring training. Stroman (4-0) was masterful yet again, striking out eight and allowing just one run on five hits in eight innings.

In typical Blue Jays fashion, the most productive lineup in baseball led the

way by tormenting opposing pitching. Jose Bautista, Edwin Encarnacion and Justin Smoak each hit home runs, and every player in the lineup registered a hit, including Ryan Goins, who registered a career-high five.

This division title also came with the guarantee of home-field advantage in the ALDS. The Blue Jays will either play host to the AL West champions — the Texas Rangers, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim or Houston Astros — or the wild-card team at Rogers Centre for Game 1 on Oct. 8.

Home-field throughout the playoffs is within reach, too. The Blue Jays' magic number to earn the top seed in the AL is three — any combination of victories and Kansas City Royals losses.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### + TIMELINE

The Blue Jays' journey to winning the division title began a year ago. Here are some pivotal moments within that span:

**Nov. 1, 2014** — The Jays trade longtime first baseman/designated hitter Adam Lind to the Milwaukee Brewers for right-handed pitcher Marco Estrada.

**Nov. 18, 2014** — The Jays sign three-time all-star catcher Russell Martin, a native of Toronto.

**Nov. 28, 2014** — The Jays trade Canadian third baseman Brett Lawrie and prospects



to the Oakland Athletics for third baseman Josh Donaldson.

**March 10, 2015** — Marcus Stroman, who was supposed to be Toronto's 24-year-old ace, tears the anterior cruciate ligament in his left

knee during fielding practice and is expected to be out for the season.

**July 12, 2015** — Toronto goes into the all-star break 45-46.

**July 28, 2015** — In a blockbuster deal with the Colorado Rockies, the Blue Jays get shortstop Troy Tulowitzki and reliever LaTroy Hawkins.

**July 30, 2015** — The trade bonanza hits its apex as the Blue Jays acquire pending free-agent ace David Price from the Detroit Tigers.

**Aug. 12, 2015** — The 10th victory of an 11-game winning streak, coupled with a Yankees loss, puts the Blue Jays in first place in the AL East by a half-game.

**Aug. 23, 2015** — A rout of the Angels wraps up a three-game sweep in Anaheim as the Blue Jays get back into first place.

**Sept. 12, 2015** — Stroman makes his triumphant season debut and is impressive as the Blue Jays sweep a Yankee Stadium doubleheader to move 4-1/2 games up.



**RECIPE** Mushroom Barley Soup

PHOTO: MAMA VISNYEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

Whip up a pot of this simple, earthy soup and have leftovers for lunch the next day.

**Ready in**

Prep time: 25 minutes

**Serves 6****Ingredients**

- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 or 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 medium carrots, peeled, diced
- 2 stalks of celery diced
- 1 lb of cremini mushrooms, brushed clean and sliced
- 2 Tbsp fresh thyme (less if using dried)

- 3/4 cup of pearl barley
- 5 cups of stock (vegetable, chicken or beef all work)
- Salt and pepper to taste

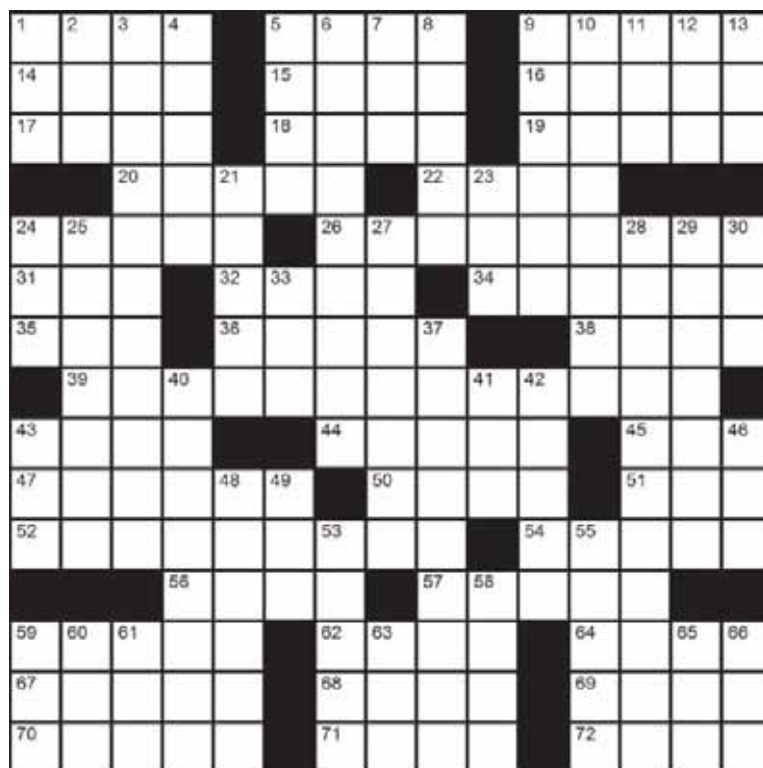
**Directions**

1. In a large pot or Dutch oven warm up the olive oil over medium heat. Add your vegetables and thyme and allow to soften for about 3 to 5 minutes.
2. Add the barley and give it a good stir to coat it. Now pour the stock over and allow soup to simmer for about 20 minutes until the barley is tender but still chewy. Taste to check seasoning.

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**CROSSWORD** Canada Across and Down BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN**ACROSS**

1. Icelandic myth story
5. Frolic
9. Sunday song
14. Momentarily
15. Iris spot in the eye
16. Western movie
17. Saloon slurp
18. Darned
19. Small song-birds
20. More kind
22. Art for #23-Down
24. Tim Hortons
26. Car trunk item: 2 wds.
31. So far
32. University for 2016 Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton
34. TV teasers
35. Spring month, briefly
36. Ironed pants line
38. Canadian composer Mr. MacDermot
39. Moose Jaw's nickname: 2 wds.
43. Nickname of Montreal's 1976 Summer Games stadium: wd. + letter
44. Kangaroo jacket feature
45. Passports, e.g.
47. Nose, slang-style
50. Expanse
51. Mesh
52. Launches an attack on the castle
54. Like linen-



56. Old currency
57. Harped on
59. Ancient language
62. Pad \_\_ (Noodle dish)
64. Farm sound effect
67. Aristocracy

68. Dog playthings
69. Bygone time
70. Carries out the commands
71. Highlands tongue
72. Forensic IDs

**DOWN**

1. Twisty turn

2. \_\_ Jones Industrial Average
3. "\_\_\_": Hit by #9-Down that continues "...on the wrong side of town!"
4. Rolling Stones classic
5. Sly tactic
6. Don't respond to

- the alarm clock
7. Kitten cry
8. "Kung Fu \_\_" (2008)
9. As per #3-Down... The \_\_ Blues (Band from Vancouver)
10. \_\_ Springs (New York state race-track locale)

11. Corroded
12. Mr. Kravitz, for short
13. Simon & Garfunkel's "\_\_\_ Robinson"
21. Creepy chamber
23. Alsatian artist Jean
24. \_\_ landslide
25. Painting like the real painting
27. Fall fashion classic: 2 wds.
28. Cloud of creativity
29. Contacts index on a classic office desk
30. "C\_\_ la vie!"
33. "\_\_\_ My Children"
37. Week parts each week
40. Relationship to the keynote in music
41. Frost
42. Fray
43. Graduate's degree, e.g.
46. Swine spot
48. Supposes
49. Switzerland's largest city [abbr.]
53. Frothy-topped hot beverage
55. Andrew Webber link
58. Smart
59. Horoscope roarer
60. Vatican vestment
61. Affiliation
63. Vertical opp.
65. Firearms org. in The States
66. "Star Trek: Voyager" role

**★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS** by Sally Brompton

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
Your imagination is so powerful there is a danger you could let your fears get out of hand. There are two ways to deal with your current dilemma: either do something about it or act as if it does not exist.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
Someone will go out of their way for you today, which makes you suspicious. What are they after? What's in it for them? The question you should be asking is: why can't I just accept that some people are nice by nature?

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
What occurs today will help you see things in perspective. It will also remind you that life is too short to waste on things that don't matter.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
You may be under the impression that you can say anything to anyone and get away with it but don't be so sure. You seem to be under divine protection but it could rapidly be withdrawn.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
You ought to make it up to someone you've been neglecting. That's fine but don't be too generous — what others want most is your attention, they don't care about cash.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
You will be hugely responsive to other people's moods but you need to take care that their negative feelings don't start having a negative effect on you. Erect an emotional wall.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
Some things are best left in the realms of fantasy. Having a dream is one thing but what if, when it comes true, you find it is really a nightmare? Stick to reality, it's safer.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
You won't lack for compassion today but you may lack for common sense. Don't let others fool you into thinking that you are doing the right thing, when in fact the real right thing is to leave well alone.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
Try to impress, especially people who can help with your ambitions, but don't go too far and claim you can deliver results that are really way beyond you. Even a Sag has limits.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
Don't let rivals undermine your confidence today, especially on the work front where a setback has already put a dent in your morale. You will soon be moving up again.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
Try not to let others know too much about what you are doing. Knowledge is power and the more knowledge you give away the less power you have for yourself.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
Relationships will generally go well today but be wary of anyone whose attitude towards you goes from one extreme to the other in a matter of minutes. It could be they are trying to confuse you for their own benefit.

**CONCEPTIS SUDOKU** by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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